



By the King.

A Proclamation against abuses in preparing
and preferring Bills and other Writings to his
Maiesties Signature.



The Kings most excellent Maiestie, obseruing the inordinate libertie that hath beene taken, chieflye of late times, in exhibiting to his Royall Signature, as well Bills to passe his great and prynie Seale, and Warrants for preparing such Bills, as also Letters, and other instruments, and Writings of sundry natures, drawne by Scriueners, and other like persons, and not by his Maiesties Officers, to whom the care thereof appertaineth, whereof ensueth a continuall vexation to his Maiestie, and many times exceeding danger and prejudice both in his revenue and otherwise, Is fully resolued to abolish those abuses, which have of late yeres crept into his seruice, and to reduce it to the ancient order and institution. And therfore his Maiestie doth hereby straightly charge and command, That no person or persons whatsoeuer (other then his Maiesties owne ordinarie Officers, to whose places it appertaineth) doe at any time hereafter presume to intermeddle with the drawing, Writing, or preparing for his Maiesties Signature, of any Bill, warrant, Letter, or other instrument or writing whatsoeuer, vpon paine of his Maiesties indignation and displeasure, and such imprisonment and other punishment as may justly be inflicted for their contempt: And that no person or persons, vnder the like paine, presume to preferre to his Maiestie to bee signed any such Bill, warrant, Letter, or other instrument or writing, not drawen or allowed by such his Maiesties ordinarie Officers, and by them signed and docqueted, in cases where the like instruments haue heretofore beene vsed to be signed and docqueted: And that none of his Maiesties owne Officers, do presume to draw or prepare for his Highnes Signature, any Bill, warrant, Letter, or other instrument or writing, vntill they haue received direction to draw the same, either by some signification of his Maiesties owne Royall pleasure, or by warrant from such as haue beene accustomed and allowed to give such warrant, vpon paine of his Maiesties displeasure, and to be debarred from the exercise and execution of their offices and places for such their default and abuse.

Giuen at his Maiesties Court at Roiston, the seventeenth day of October, in the nineteenth yeere of His Raigne of Great Brittaine, France and Ireland.

God sauе the King.

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M. D C. XXI.